United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1253
22 October 1992

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Memorandum of Understanding for humanitarian assistance to Iraq signed at Headquartes this afternoon by Under-Secretary-General Jan Eliasson and Iraqi Ambassador Nizar Hamdoon.

+ Secretary-General to present new proposal on dismantling military structures of FMLN, and if necessary, new timetable for that process, by end of month.

+ Humanitarian airlift to Sarajevo resumes today following 24-hour security assessment, according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

+ Future investigative inspections of Iraq's nuclear facilities and long-term monitoring of that country's activities were needed, Hans Blix, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, tells General Assembly.

+ "The world is moving towards a new, more participatory, people-centered way of conducting international affairs", says the Secretary-General in his United Nations Day message.

+ Democratic People's Republic of Korea says Japan is not qualified to be Permanent Member of Security Council, in view of war crimes.

+ Michael Stopford, currently Special Assistant to Under-Secretary-General for Public Information, appointed Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Washington.

+ Fiftieth anniversary of United Nations should celebrate Organization's achievements and mark restructuring of essential organs, preparatory committee is told; Secretary-General says "United Nations is world's best hope".

+ First Committee told by Pakistan that arms exporters should not set security standards for other States.

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For information media—not an official record

+ United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) launches 1992-1994 directory of selected media and related data covering nearly 160 countries.

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The Memorandum of Understanding for humanitarian assistance to Iraq was signed this afternoon at Headquarters by Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson for the United Nations, and the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations, Nizar Hamdoon.

According to the text of the agreement, United Nations guards would continue to be assigned as needed in the three northern Governorates of Suleimaniya, Arbil and Dohouk. The number of guards would not exceed 300, including a small administrative component, not exceeding 8, at their headquarters in Baghdad.

Under the agreement, the Government of Iraq would grant the United Nations field staff safe and unimpeded access, by air or road, to facilitate the implementation of the Programme. Iraq would also facilitate the safe and rapid delivery of humanitarian assistance commodities throughout the country.

A United Nations spokesman said earlier today that the humanitarian activity undertaken by the United Nations in the south would focus on food distribution and basic medical care. He emphasized however that the primary focus of the plan was the winter programme in the north.

The previous Memorandum of Understanding expired on 30 June. The new agreement will remain in force until the end of March 1993.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a letter to the President of the Security Council, has said he would present a new proposal on the situation in El Salvador concerning the dismantling the military structures of the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) by the end of the month, and if necessary, a new timetable for the demobilization of that force. The Secretary-General is due to submit his recommendations on the future strength and mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) by 31 October when its current mandate comes to an end.

In his letter, dated 19 October, the Secretary-General expressed concern over the decision by the FMLN to suspend the demobilization of its forces until new dates had been set for the start of the transfer of land and for other aspects of the Agreements which had fallen behind schedule. He was also concerned over continuing suspicions that significant quantities of arms held by the FMLN were not included in the inventories presented to the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) at the beginning of the cease-fire.

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The Secretary-General wrote that the proposed revision of the timetable must be the final one, and that both parties must fully commit themselves to abiding by the new schedule. He noted that the United Nations peace-keeping services were currently in great demand and that an undue extension of the planned schedule for ONUSAL must be avoided.
(S/24668)

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced today that the humanitarian airlift to Sarajevo had resumed following a 24-hour security assessment.

The announcement follows the suspension yesterday of humanitarian flights to the city due to increased fighting, which posed a "significantly increased risk" to relief workers, according to UNHCR officials. The UNHCR also suspended its convoy operations from Split to Sarajevo and Central Bosnia and Herzegovina.

According to today's announcement, airlift officials had decided to interrupt the flights Wednesday morning following reports of possible fighting near Sarajevo. However, a mission of soldiers from the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) sent to the area to assess the situation found that there was no security threat.

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Future investigative inspections of Iraq's nuclear facilities and long-term monitoring of that country's activities were needed, Hans Blix, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told the General Assembly yesterday.

Introducing the Agency's report for 1991, Mr. Blix said that monitoring was still very important because Iraq's scientific and technical knowledge remained largely intact and its clandestine procurement network was still in place.

His report states that on the basis of eight on-site inspection missions to Iraq during 1991, the Board of Governors of IAEA, for the first time in the Agency's 35-year history, declared that a Member State had failed to comply with its safeguards obligations as a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Mr. Blix said that in Latin America, Argentina and Brazil had opened all their nuclear installations to IAEA inspection. It was now likely that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, known as the Tlatelolco Treaty, would come into force, making the whole of Latin America a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a message issued today in connection with the observance, on 24 October, of United Nations Day, said the world was moving towards a more participatory, people-centred way of conducting international affairs and the United Nations was also undergoing change. "Today, we have a new opportunity to fulfil the Purposes and Principles of the Charter", he said. "Its goals -- peace, prosperity and political participation -- are the prerequisite of the life in dignity to which every man and woman aspires."

The Secretary-General said that critical issues -- development, disarmament, the environment, human rights and the underlying causes of conflict -- all required universal attention and effort. The need for the World Organization was greater today than at any time since its founding.

"I see hopeful signs that a new and better era is emerging", he said. "A reinvigorated United Nations will be at the heart of cooperative international progress."

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Discussing possible changes to the composition of the Security Council, the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea yesterday told the Sixth Committee (Legal) that a State that has failed to accept responsibility for aggression and war crimes committed during the Second World War was not qualified to become a permanent member of the Security Council. The representative, Hyon Hak Bong, said that Japan, before thinking of Council membership, should apologize for crimes committed in the past and make full compensation.

Exercising his right of reply, the Japanese representative, Eiji Yamamoto, said his Government had expressed on many occasions its profound regret and concern to Asian countries about its past relations with them and had extended the necessary compensation to the States concerned. Japan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were now discussing the normalization of relations between their countries. The issues between them would be settled by bilateral talks.

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The fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations should celebrate the Organization's achievements and mark the restructuring of its essential organs, members of the Preparatory Committee for that event were told this morning, as the Committee met for the first time. It was established by the General Assembly in April for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary in 1995, with the mission to recommend to the Assembly proposals for suitable activites in connection with the observance.

In his statement, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said democracy and development should be at the top of the Organization's agenda, and the support of the world opinion in that effort was vital. The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council had put forward a proposal for an

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international summit meeting on social development, he said, and Denmark had proposed to host it in 1995. "The United Nations is our best hope, let us make the best of it", the Secretary-General said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Michael Stopford as Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Washington. Mr. Stopford, who is currently Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General for Public Information (DPI), assumes his new duties on 2 November.

In 1991, he was appointed Chef de Cabinet to the Executive Delegate of the Secretary-General for the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme in Iraq, Kuwait and the Iraq/Turkey and Iraq/Iran border areas, joining the newly-established Department for Humanitarian Affairs in April 1992. From 1987 to 1991, Mr. Stopford was assigned to the United Nations Office at Geneva as Chef de Cabinet to the Director-General and Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights.

Mr. Stopford is a national of the United Kingdom.

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Transparency in international arms transfers could not be successful if it ignored such factors as indigenous arms production capabilities, existing stockpiles or the transfer of weapons technology, the representative of Pakistan told today the First Committee (Political and Security). Arms exporting countries, he went on, could not ascribe to themselves the right to determine the security requirements of arms-importing or non-weapon-producing States.

The representative of Hungary discussed the effectiveness of the prohibition and verification regime of the 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxic Weapons and on Their Destruction. He said that it lacked the comprehensive verification regime that had been written into the draft chemical weapons convention and its regime should be strenghtened.

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The United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) is launching a 1992-1994 directory of selected media and related data covering nearly 160 countries.

The publication, entitled World Media Handbook integrates in some 500 pages a wealth of data not previously available from any other single source, and is primarily intended as a handy reference tool for United Nations information officials and other media-related specialists.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1254
23 October 1992

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ International community will not tolerate taking of territory by force, nor acquiesce in ethnic cleansing, Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference tell correspondents today in Geneva.

+ Welcoming signing yesterday of Memorandum of Understanding for humanitarian assistance to Iraq, Under-Secretary-General Jan Eliasson says it will cost United Nations some $217 million.

+ Prime Minister of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia offers to receive Bosnian/Serb aircraft on airfield in Yugoslavia under United Nations control; Croatia says such transfer of aircraft is in violation of arms embargo against territory of former Yugoslavia.

+ Yugoslavia Sanctions Committee receives appeal from Montenegro for urgent humanitarian assistance in wake of floods there.

+ Invitations to attend three Working Groups on Middle East regional issues have been extended to the United Nations.

+ Moldova, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, in separate letters to Secretary-General and President of Security Council, ask for United Nations intervention to solve regional conflict.

+ Tuzla region in Bosnia and Herzegovina appeals to United Nations Protection Force and "the whole world opinion" to organize humanitarian aid to rescue people of that region.

+ Major-General Krishna Narayan Singh Thapa of Nepal appointed Chief of Staff of United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, with effect from 26 October.

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The international community will not tolerate the taking of territory by force, nor acquiesce in ethnic cleansing, the two Co-Chairmen of the International Conference, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, said today. The comments

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were made at a press conference in Geneva following five days of talks on the situation in former Yugoslavia, which has brought together three Presidents and one Prime Minister from that region.

Responding to reports that Bosnia and Herzegovina had in fact been carved up by Serbian and Croatian forces, the Co-Chairmen said the status quo on the ground was not acceptable, and that international recognition and the lifting of sanctions would not take place until a political solution has been found. While some advocated the use of force, they said, the Geneva Conference would use other methods that in the end would triumph.

Reviewing the results of the recent talks, in particular the statement made by the Presidents of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Croatia, Mr. Vance said they had put themselves on record as condemning ethnic cleansing; they had endorsed the principle of the inviolability of international borders; and they had called for the cessation of hostilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the demilitarization of Sarajevo. Important mechanisms had been established to achieve those goals, he said, including a Joint Inter-State Committee to work for the normalization of the relations between Belgrade and Zagreb and a Liaison Office in the two capitals.

To deal with problems impeding the return of displaced persons to the United Nations Protected Areas of Croatia, Mr. Vance recalled that a Quadripartite Mechanism had been created involving the Croatian Government, local Serb representatives, the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In addition, a Mixed Military Working Group had been set up, including officers from the three sides, to carry out detailed planning of the demilitarization of Sarajevo. That Group had met today under the Chairmanship of UNPROFOR General Philippe Morillon, marking the first time that the three sides had sat down together since the earliest days of the war.

The Co-Chairmen held their first meeting in the latest round of talks on Saturday, 17 October, with Prime Minister Milan Panic of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and again on Wednesday, 21 October. On Monday, 19 October, President Alija Izebegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic of the Federal Republic held an historic first meeting and issued a joint statement. The following day, Tuesday, President Cosic and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman held a follow-up meeting to their first encounter in Geneva on 30 September, following which they issued a statement.

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Although the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on humanitarian activities in Iraq did not satisfy all the United Nations' aspirations, the agreement signed with Iraq yesterday "was a good result", Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson told reporters at Headquarters today. In view of the urgency of the situation, with winter approaching, he said he hoped the plan could now move into high gear, "to avoid very, very difficult conditions for a vulnerable part of the Iraqi population" in the North and the South, while also providing relief for other groups in Iraq.

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Mr. Eliasson denied that the United Nations had accomodated an Iraqi demand that it reduce the number of its personnel in the country. He pointed out that since the expiration on 30 June of the previous MOU, the programme had ground to a halt, with only 107 guards and less than a hundred agency and non-governmental personnel remaining. The guards contingent had never totalled more than 450 and the new limit of 300 had been reached in consultation with the agencies, according to the needs they had assessed in the field. There would also be several hundred agency and NGO personnel in the area.

The total cost of the plan, Mr. Eliasson said, was estimated to be $217 million. Traditionally, humanitarian activities in Iraq had been funded by voluntary contributions, and some States had already indicated support for the fuel that would have to be bought very soon, and some had expressed interest in supplying United Nations guards.

Earlier this month, Mr. Eliasson's office announced that pledges of cash contributions for the Iraqi programme had been received from a number of Member States, including $6.5 million from the United States and $2 million from Japan.

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Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Milan Panic, has offered to receive Bosnian/Serb aircraft on an airfield in Yugoslavia where, he said, "it would be easier for the United Nations to exercise control over their use". The proposal was put forward in a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 16 October, in connection with ongoing talks with the Bosnian/Serb side to place those aircraft under United Nations control.

Meanwhile, in a letter to the President of the Security Council, dated 21 October, Croatian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Mario Nobilo, expressed concern over the transfer of aircraft from Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, saying it constituted a violation of the arms embargo imposed by the Security Council against the territory of former Yugoslavia.

While Croatia hoped that international control over Serbian-operated aircraft in Bosnia and Herzegovina would prevent further air attacks on civilians in Bosnia as well as in Croatia, Mr Nobilo emphasized that, because of the sensitivity of the matter, measures imposed by the United Nations must be observed in a comprehensive way.

The Croatian Ambassador added that the aircraft were to be considered common property of the successor States of the former Yugoslavia to be divided among those States. He urged that the question be included in the agenda of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia at Geneva.
Document A/47/570, S/24693

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The Chairman of the Yugoslavia Sanctions Committee, Ambassador Jose Ayalo Lasso of Ecuador, told the press at Headquarters today that the Committee had received an appeal from Montenegro for urgent humanitarian assistance in the wake of floods there. At its meeting yesterday, the Committee had decided that, as a matter of utmost urgency, any offer from the United Nations agencies, the international humanitarian organizations or any Member State to provide the necessary disaster relief would be taken up by the Committee immediately.

Ambassador Lasso said he had consulted with the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Eliasson, on what immediate emergency disaster relief could be provided to Montenegro by the United Nations. He stressed that while maintaining the mandatory arms embargo imposed on the whole of former Yugoslavia, the Committee treated with concern and urgency every request for humanitarian assistance for the people of Serbia and Montenegro. Foodstuffs and medical supplies were specifically exempted from the sanctions regime. He cited as an example the fact that the Committee had recently approved the export by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) of various emergency supplies, including clothes and blankets for the Moslim, Roman and Serbian refugee children in Serbia and Montenegro.

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The Secretary-General's Spokesman announced today that Canada, France and the Netherlands had extended invitations to the United Nations to attend, as a full extra-regional participant, the meetings of three Working groups on Middle East regional issue. The working groups are the Working Group on Environment, which will take place at the Hague on 26 to 27 October; the Working Group on Economic and regional Development, scheduled for 29 to 30 October; and the Working Group on Refugees, to be held in Ottawa from 11 to 12 November.

The invitation was delivered to the Secretary-General by the Canada, France and the Netherland's Permanent Representatives to the United Nations, in the presence of the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States, which are the co-sponsors of the Middle East peace negotiations.

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Appeals for United Nations intervention, addressed to the Secretary-General and the Security Council, have been received from the representatives of Moldova, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The Foreign Minister of Moldova, Nicolae Tau, in a letter dated 20 October, reiterated a request made earlier this month by the Moldovan Parliament that a United Nations observer mission be sent to his country. He asked that the mission monitor the process of Moldo-Russian negotiations concerning the Transnistrian issue, including the wihdrawal of the Russian 14th Army.

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Protesting the support by Russian President Boris Yeltsin for secessionist forces within Moldova, he asked that aid which the European Community, the United States, Canada and Japan proposed to grant the Russian Federation be conditional on it withdrawing its armed forces from Moldovan territory.

The Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations, L. Kayumov, in a letter dated 21 October, said that measures taken in his country by the political leadership have failed to halt the conflict between local armed groups and to create peaceful, stable conditions for those affected by the violence. His Government therefore requested that a peacemaking mission be sent to Tajikistan, and that humanitarian aid be provided urgently.

The Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Medet Sherimkulov, supported that appeal. In a letter dated 15 October, he conveyed the request of the Supreme Council that the Security Council give urgent consideration to the situation in Tajikistan, and that the Secretary-General use his personal influence and the prestige of the United Nations to help settle the conflict.
Document S/24690, S/24692, S/24699

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Two officials of the Tuzla region in Bosnia and Herzegovina have appealed to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and "the whole world opinion" to organize international activity in order to rescue the people of the Tuzla region.

In a letter to the President of the Security Council, the President of the Coordination Council of the Tuzla Region and the Commander of the Regional Staff Defence of Tuzla said 80,000 people had been surrounded by the aggressor for more that six months without food, medicaments, footwear and clothes. The people in the Tuzla region were faced with massacre as the army of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was moving in "with large-scale war technics attacking innocent and unarmed people".

They requested that a convoy with humanitarian aid be sent to the region and that the corridor be restituted in order to save the civilians from total devastation.

The letter was transmitted by the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations, Muhamed Sacirbey, and was dated 21 October.

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Major-General Krishna Narayan Singh Thapa of Nepal was today appointed by the Secretary-General as Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), with effect from 26 October.

General Thapa, who succeeds Major-General Hans Christensen of Finland, was commissioned as an officer in 1957. In addition to having held various

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command and staff appointments, he has also served as Commandant of the Infantry School, Director of Military Training and, until recently, as Quartermaster General. He has had two previous tours of duty with the United Nations, first as Chief Humanitarian Officer and later as Chief of Staff of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1255
26 October 1992

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Joint talks between leaders of Chypriot Greek and Chypriot Turkish communities resume today at United Nations Headquarters.

+ The five members of Commission of Experts to consider information on violations of international humanitarian law in former Yugoslavia appointed by Secretary-General.

+ UNHCR appeals to the international community for sanctuary for ex-detainees in Yugoslavia.

+ Iraq condemns selective enforcement of Security Council resolutions in First Committee's general debate on Disarmament.

+ First-ever WHO Ministerial Conference on Malaria begins in Amsterdam, convened to give new impetus to global fight against deadly disease.

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The joint talks which Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali initiated in August between the leaders of the Chypriot Greek and Chypriot Turkish communities resumed today at United Nations Headquarters.

In accordance with Security Council resolution 774 (1992) of 26 August, which followed those talks, the current round of joint meetings have as their objective the completion of work on an overall framework agreement, based on the entire Set of Ideas endorsed in the resolution. Under the resolution, the Council expressed its expectation that an overall framework settlement would be concluded in 1992 and that 1993 would be the transitional period during which the settlement would be implemented. The Council reaffirmed that the status quo in Cyprus was not acceptable and called on the Secretary-General to recommend alternative course of action if an agreement did not emerge from the talks convening in October.

Most of the countries contributing troops to the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), while acknowledging that a critical

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moment has been reached in efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem, have recently called for a reduction in the resources committed to the Force, in view of the new peace-keeping operations to which they have been asked to contribute.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has announced the appointment of the five members to the Commission of Experts, created under Security Council resolution 780 (1992) earlier this month, to consider information from States on possible violations of international humanitarian law in former Yugoslavia. As President of the Commission, the Secretary-General has appointed Professor Fritz Kalshoven of the Netherlands. The four other appointees are Professor Cherif Bassiouni of Egypt; William Fenrick of Canada; Judge Keba Mbaye of Senegal; and Professor Torkel Opsahl of Norway.

Under its resolution, the Council asked all member States, relevant United Nations bodies, and relevant organizations to make information available within 30 days to assist the Commission in its work. The Commission will also act on any further information it may obtain through its own investigations on grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions being committed in former Yugoslavia.

In a separate development, the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina has urged the Security Council "to examine without delay" all information brought before it concerning the ban on military flights in that country. The call was made in a letter to the President of the Council, dated 23 October, signed by the Bosnian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Muhamed Sacirbey.

In a previous letter, dated 20 October, Ejub Ganic, Member of the Bosnian Presidency, informed the Council that the aggressor had "used helicopters to transport reinforcements and ammunition to northern Bosnia and Herzegovina. Helicopters of the type 'Gazela' were also used to launch rockets on the Government positions", the letter stated.
Document S/24709, S/24703

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Pointing out that "release without refuge was a cruel half-measure", the United Nations High Commissionner for Refugees today renewed its appeal to the international community to open its doors to the thousands of detainees awaiting evacuation from camps in former Yugoslavia.

In a letter to Governments, Deputy High Commissioner, Douglas Stafford, noted that temporary safe haven must be found in third countries for the ex-prisoners, many of whom had been subjected to horrendous abuses and torture. The Government of Croatia, already burdened with a huge refugee population, had agreed to provide temporary transit facilities for the ex-detainees on condition that they eventually move on to third countries. Montenegro had also taken in some of the ex-detainees.

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The United States advised UNHCR today that it would offer places for 1,000 and other places have been offered by Finland, Italy, Norway, New Zealand and Switzerland. However, the slowness of the international response has forced the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to suspend plans to begin the further evacuation of some 5,000 prisoners from Bosnian camps this week. ICRC officials said that so far they have interviewed nearly 7,000 prisoners in 26 detention camps throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Stafford appealed in his letter for places for both the victims and their wives and children whose support they needed for rebuilding their lives.

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The representative of Iraq, in a statement to the First Committee (Political and Security) on Friday, 23 October, has condemned the "blatantly selective attitude and double standards" that were being used by certain countries in the enforcement of Security Council resolutions.

Said H. Hasan Al-Musawi said those countries called on Iraq to comply with Security Council resolutions dealing with the destruction of its weapons, while remaining silent on the implementation of other resolutions such as the one which called on Israel to place all its nuclear facilities under international safeguards. Iraq had never attempted to own nuclear weapons, its nuclear programme was purely for peaceful purposes, he said . The reason why his country, in the past, had not declared certain facilities was because of the 1981 attack by Israel which had destroyed an Iraqi nuclear reactor - already under the safeguards regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) - and because no one had given Iraq any guarantees that such an attack would not be repeated.

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The first-ever Ministerial Conference on Malaria organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) began today in Amsterdam, convened to give new impetus to the global fight against the deadly disease.

According to a radio report from Geneva, malaria still kills more than one million people worldwide each year, despite years of struggle against the most deadly of the tropical diseases. Participants from over 100 countries -- including 55 Ministers of Health from malaria-endemic countries -- are attending the Conference to endorse a new strategy for controlling the disease.

The Conference is expected to adopt such a new strategy tomorrow, 27 October.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1256
27 October 1992

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General, in statement on occasion of Disarmament Week, urges all States to support transition to "post-disarmament world"; will establish inter-departmental task force to provide political, technical and economic advice on changing existing military industries.

+ Security Council scheduled to hold formal meetings on situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, Angola, Mozambique, respectively, and on Secretary-General's "Agenda for Peace" report.

+ Chairman of Iraqi Disarmament Commission, Rolf Ekeus, reports "interesting developments" in 45th inspection team's search for more evidence of Iraq's ballistic missile capabilities.

+ United Nations Protection Force brings in demining experts to inspect and render safe Peruca Dam in Croatia; Joint Commission on "Pink Zones" in Croatia holds seventh meeting.

+ Joint talks between leaders of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities in Cyprus to be held at Headquarters tomorrow, 28 October.

+ Secretary-General's Special Representative for Western Sahara, Yaqub Khan, to brief Security Council tomorrow, 28 October, on situation in that Territory.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today urged all States to consider methods to alleviate the problems of making the "painful transition to a post-disarmament world". While pledging the assistance of the United Nations in exploring ways of enhancing the disarmament process, he called for decisive actions in transforming military-oriented industrial complexes into enterprises serving social, humanitarian and development needs.

The Secretary-General made the pledge in a statement today on the occasion of Disarmament Week, in which he further said he would establish an inter-departmental task force at the United Nations to provide member States

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For information media—not an official record

with political, technical and economic advice on the various aspects involved in changing existing military industry.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali also said he supported greater Security Council involvement in disarmament matters in particular, the enforcement of non-proliferation. He recalled that the Military Staff Committee, under the United Nations Charter, was mandated to provide assistance to the Council on all questions relating, inter alia, to the regulation of armaments and possible disarmament.

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Following informal consultations yesterday and today, the Security Council was scheduled to hold formal meetings this evening on developments in Nagorno-Karabakh, Mozambique and Angola, respectively, and on the Secretary-General's "Agenda for Peace" report.

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The Chairman of the Commission on Iraqi Disarmament, Rolf Ekeus, told correspondents today at Headquarters that the inspection team currently in Iraq had reported some "interesting developments". The team, which is the forty-fifth inspection mission into Iraq, is searching for more evidence of Iraq's ballistic missile capabilities and is the first real test of a promised change in Iraq's attitude. Mr. Ekeus said Iraq now appeared to be quite forthcoming in some important respects.

The team had not found any hidden SCUD missiles, he said, but to be sure, it needed to know for example whether fuel for SCUD missiles existed in Iraq. The Commission was also insisting that Iraq disclose its supplier network, but that, Mr. Ekeus noted, was probably the most jealously-guarded secret in Iraq.

The Commission was looking into the possibility of offering Iraq an incentive to comply with its obligations under Security Council resolution 687 (1991). Mr. Ekeus suggested that if Iraq were to be completely forthcoming about its weapons of mass destruction, the Council might be convinced to lift its restrictions on the sale of Iraqi oil.

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The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) yesterday brought in demining experts from the United Kingdom to inspect and render safe the Peruca Dam in Croatia. According to an UNPROFOR press release, the experts, accompanied by the Force Commander, Lieutenant Commander Satish Nambiar, were at the Dam today.

The UNPROFOR move follows the acknowledgment this past weekend by the Government of Yugoslavia, whose army occupied the area until June, that it was unable to assist in the task. The peacekeeping force took over the dam on 16 September and immediately took steps to reduce the water level in order to

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minimize the danger of the dam bursting. It also brought in international teams of engineers to inspect all aspects of the facility.

While no immediate problems are expected from the rising levels of Peruca Dam, a lower channel through the dam requires preliminary inspection before it can be readied for emergency openings.

In a separate development, the Joint Commission established by the Security Council to oversee the step-by-step restoration of Croatian authority in the "Pink Zones" had its seventh meeting in Topusko on Monday. The Commission, chaired by UNPROFOR and comprised of the Croatian Government representatives, the Serb local authorities in the region and the European Community's Monitoring Mission (ECMM), is scheduled to meet again in Zagreb on 9 November.

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It was announced today that the joint talks with the Secretary-General between the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities would be held tomorrow, 28 October, at Headquarters.

Joint talks were scheduled to have begun on Monday, 26 October, but were cancelled in the course of the day.

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A United Nations official said today that the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Western Sahara, Yaqub Khan, would brief members of the Security Council tomorrow, 28 October, on the situation in that Territory.

Mr. Yaqub Khan consulted this morning with the Secretary-General regarding the possibility of organizing meeting of tribal chiefs, along the lines of meeting held in June 1990. The Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on the matter would most probably be issued towards the end of November, the official said.

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CORRECTION:

First headline in Monday Highlights, 26 October should have read:

+ Joint talks between leaders of the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities to resume today at Headquarters.

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United Nations

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28 October 1992

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in three meetings last night, issues statements on Nagorno-Karabakh, Mozambique and Angola; Council to meet tomorrow morning on Secretary-General's "An Agenda for Peace" report.

+ Five new non-permanent members of Security Council -- Brazil, Djibouti, Pakistan, New Zealand and Spain -- elected by General Assembly to serve two-year terms beginning on 1 January 1993; Assembly adopts resolution reaffirming sovereignty of Comoros over Island of Mayotte.

+ World Bank approves $20 million grant for famine relief in Somalia; United Nations official says total number of authorized security personnel in that country will be 4,219 to be deployed in three stages.

+ General Assembly considers 35-power draft on need for enhanced cooperation between United Nations and Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

+ Chairman of Special Committee Against Apartheid condemns "senseless killing" in South Africa, urges leaders "to spare no effort" to find ways to curtail spiralling violence.

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The Security Council, in three consecutive meetings last night, heard statements read out on its behalf by Council President Jean-Bernard Merimée (France) on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, Mozambique and Angola, respectively.

In its statement on Nagorno-Karabakh, the Council appealed for the immediate convening of the Minsk Conference in the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and for the beginning of political negotiations for a comprehensive settlement. It also appealed for the immediate implementation of the cease-fire agreement reached at Sochi, Russia, on 21 September. The Council further welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to send a representative to the region to examine what contributions the United Nations could make in support of the efforts of the CSCE.

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For information media—not an official record

The move follows a charge by Azerbaijan that Armenia's recent request to the Secretary-General for his designation of a Special Representative for Nagorno-Karabakh and for the deployment of United Nations observers there could shift the negotiation process into a new framework and thereby delay the peace process.

In a second meeting last night, the members of the Council expressed deep concern about major violations of the cease-fire in Mozambique and called for scrupulous respect for all commitments under the General Peace Agreement, signed on 4 October by the Mozambican Government and the Mozambique National Resistence Movement (RENAMO). The Council indicated that full respect for the cease-fire was necessary for the successful deployment of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique.

The Council on 12 October approved the appointment of an interim Special Representative for Mozambique and the dispatch to that country of a 25-member team of military observers. The cease-fire was expected to have entered into force on 15 October.

In its final meeting last night, Council President Merimée read out a statement urging the leaders of the two parties in Angola to engage in dialogue without delay, so as to enable the second round of the presidential elections to be held. Expressing concern about the deteriorating political situation in the country, the statement warned that it would hold responsible the party which refused to open such dialogue, thus jeopardizing the entire process. It called on the parties "to refrain from any act which might heighten tension, impair the conduct of the electoral process and threaten the territorial integrity of Angola".

By the statement, the Council reiterated its full support for the Secretary-General's Special Representative and for the United Nations Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) and condemned recent attacks against them by the radio service of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). It also reiterated its readiness to act without delay on the basis of recommendations that the Secretary-General might make concerning the United Nation's contribution to the completion of the electoral process.

The Council was holding consultations this afternoon on the situation in Western Sahara. It was announced following those consultations that the Council would meet tomorrow morning on the Secretary-General's "An Agenda for Peace" report.

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The General Assembly yesterday evening elected five new non-permanent members of the Security Council -- Brazil, Djibouti, Pakistan, New Zealand and Spain. They will serve two-year terms beginning on 1 January 1993, replacing India, Zimbabwe, Ecuador, Austria and Belgium. The Assembly selected the five from six candidates, the one not selected being Sweden.

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In other action, the Assembly reaffirmed the sovereignty of the Comoros over the Island of Mayotte, by adopting a resolution introduced by the Comoros. It called for the French President to put into practice the wish he had expressed "actively to seek a just solution to the question of Mayotte".

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The World Bank has approved a $20 million grant in support of the United Nations 100-Day Action Programme for Accelerated Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Somalia, in response to a recent appeal made by the United Nations for financial assistance to that programme.

At a press conference today, Jan Eliasson, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, and Francis Colaso, Director of the East African Department at the World Bank, briefed correspondents on the grant, which is intended primarily for non-food assistance. It would also cover the cost of transportation and logistics for delivering of emergency food and desperately needed medical supplies to people in famine-stricken areas of Somalia and to Somali refugees in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya.

Describing the grant as exceptional, Mr. Colaso said the World Bank -- neither a peace-keeping nor a relief organization -- could not use its traditional instruments of loans and credits to help with the situation in Somalia, as there was no recognized government in that country. The grants were made in support of a general appeal by the United Nations and would be disbursed by United Nations agencies, he said.

Welcoming the World Bank's decision, Under-Secretary-General Eliasson noted that it reflected growing cooperation between the United Nations and the World Bank.

In a related development, a United Nations official said today that the total authorized number of security personnel in Somalia would be 4,219, including the 50 United Nations observers and 500 Pakistani troops who were already in Somalia. The deployment of that operation -- known as United Nations Observer Mission in Somalia (UNOSOM) -- would occur in three stages, beginning with a reconnaissance party to Somalia, which would be followed ten days later by an advance party of troops. The last stage would be the deployment of the remaining troops.

Last night, the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations, José Luis Jesus, told correpondents that he had asked Council members during consultations that measures be taken for the prompt deployment of the 3,000 UNOSOM security guards mandated by the Council in July. He said Council members were discussing whether to launch a different kind of United Nations involvement in Somalia because of the lack of governmental and administrative structure in that country -- perhaps an operation like the one in Cambodia.

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Without cooperation and coordination, the activities of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) could be counterproductive, Jaroslav Suchanek, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, told the General Assembly this morning, as he introduced the 42-power draft resolution on enhanced cooperation between the two organizations. Speaking as the representative of a country that would divide into two separate States as of 1 January 1993, he pointed out that the United Nations and the CSCE dealt with different aspects of the same problems. Without clearer and closer relations, those efforts could be compromised.

The question of interaction between the different international bodies had acquired a new dimension after the Helsinki Summit, when Heads of State and Government declared their understanding that CSCE was a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter. As such, he said, it provided an important link between European and global security. A lasting and peaceeful order would be built on mutually reinforcing institutions, each with its own area of action and responsibility.

The discussion on cooperation between the United Nations and CSCE was at the initial stage of exchanges of ideas, he said. Those ideas might be reflected in a report of the Secretary-General at the next General Assembly session, as indicated in the resolution.

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In a statement issued today, the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, Ibrahim A. Gambari (Nigeria), said that the Committee was deeply distressed by the news of the "senseless killing" of more than 20 members of the Inkatha Freedom Party at a religious gathering in the Folwani area in Natal on 25 October. They also recalled with sadness the attacks earlier this month in the same area, which took the lives of eight members of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), as well as the killing of regional ANC leader, Reggie Hadebe, in an ambush on 26 October.

"The lives lost as a result of this spiral of violence in South Africa have now reached the staggering level of more than 6,000 in the last two years," he said. "The level of violence has seriously undermined all efforts to resume the negotiation process."

While reiterating that it was the primary duty of the South African authorities to protect the lives and property of all South Africans, the Special Committee stressed the importance of the early resumption of the peace process. It appealed to all the parties to exercise maximum restraint and refrain from acts that could evoke further death and destruction. In particular, the Special Committee urged the political leaders most directly affected by the violence to meet without delay and "to spare no effort in finding ways agreeable to all for curtailing this unfortunate development".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1258
29 October 1992

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, at first meeting on Secretary-General's "Agenda for Peace" report, announces it will meet once a month on that report; to first consider proposals for States to provide forces to United Nations peace-keeping and need to augment staff dealing with peace-keeping matters.

+ Two senior United Nations officials dispatched to El Salvador to discuss with parties and Secretary-General's Special Representative expeditious completion of peace process in that country.

+ Warn-torn situation in former Yugoslavia requires emergency action by international community, says Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights.

+ Joint talks between leaders of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities continue at Headquarters.

+ General Assembly elects 18 States to fill vacancies in Economic and Social Council as of 1 January.

+ Yugoslav Army withdrawn from Croatia; United Nations military observers patrolling Prevlaka Peninsula, according to Secretary-General.

+ Land and air deliveries organized by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees bring aid supplies into Sarajevo, in effort to build relief stocks before winter sets in.

+ General Assembly calls for strengthened cooperation between United Nations and Organization of American States, League of Arab States, and Latin American Economic System.

+ Armando Duque to head Office of Human Resources Management and serve as Security Director, replacing Abdou Ciss, who is to be Assistant President in General Affairs Department of International Fund for Agriculture.

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For information media—not an official record

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The Security Council has decided to meet at least once a month on the Secretary-General's report, "An Agenda for Peace", in order to arrive at conclusions which will be considered during a special meeting of the Council no later than next spring. The decision was read out this morning by Council President Jean-Bernard Merimée (France), at a formal meeting which marked the beginning of the Council's examination of the Secretary-General's report.

In his statement, Mr. Merimée said the Council had decided to first consider the Secretary-General's proposal to encourage Member States to inform him of their willingness to provide forces or capabilities to the United Nations for peace-keeping operations. The Council also shared the Secretary-General's view of a need to increase the strength and capability of military staff serving in the Secretariat and of staff dealing with peace-keeping matters more generally. It invited the Secretary-General to create in the Secretariat an enhanced peace-keeping military planning staff and an operations centre to deal with the greater complexity in the field of peace-keeping operations.

Other proposals to be examined by the Council concern the role of the regional organizations and increased use of the United Nations of fact-finding missions. The Council said it would also continue its discussion of the special economic problems which may confront third States when sanctions are imposed on a State.

The Secretary-General's "Agenda for Peace" report, which contains a number of proposals on the capacity of the United Nations for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping, was prepared in response to a request by the Summit Meeting of the Security Council held in New York at the end of January.

The Council held consultations this afternoon on the situation in Angola, El Salvador and Tajikistan.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali dispatched today two senior United Nations officials to El Salvador to discuss with the parties and his Special Representative the expeditious completion of the peace process in that country.

In a statement issued last night, the Secretary-General said he had asked Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding and Assistant Secretary-General Alvaro de Soto to go to San Salvador for meetings with the Salvadoran Government and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) regarding his recent proposal to speed up the implementation of the Peace

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Agreements on El Salvador. The move follows commitments by FMLN to accept his proposal, and by President Alfredo Cristiani that the Government would continue to implement its obligations under the Agreements.

According to last night's statement, the Government of El Salvador has begun the transfer of lands to ex-combatants of the FMLN. The FMLN, for its part, has begun the demilitarization of one third of its remaining combatants. The Secretary-General's Special Representative for El Salvador, Iqbal Riza, will participate in the talks to complete the peace process which is being verified by the United Nations Observer Mission in that country (ONUSAL).

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The war-torn situation in the former Yugoslavia required emergency action by the international community, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights, has said in a report issued following his second mission to former Yugoslavia from 12 to 22 October 1992.

The report, which was submitted to the Economic and Social Council on 27 October, stressed that safe heavens abroad must be found for those whose lives are in acute danger. In addition, in order to ensure that providing refuge would not contribute to the policy of 'ethnic cleansing', it was essential to reaffirm and provide lasting protection for the right to return. Mr. Mazowiecki once again appealed to Governments to take urgent steps and to international public opinion to support these efforts.

The report also underlined that a large number of displaced persons would not have to seek refuge abroad if their security could be guaranteed and if they could be provided with both sufficient food supplies and adequate medical care. The concept of security zones within the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be actively pursued for that purpose.

The Rapporteur called for an increase in humanitarian assistance to all persons in the affected areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina and urged Governments to provide the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with additional support. He also called the current situation in Kosovo "dangerous", with evidence of discriminatory measures taken by the local authorities against ethnic Albanians.
Document E/CN.4/1992/S-1/10

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Joint talks between the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities continued at Headquarters today. The talks, which were initiated by the Secretary-General in August, began yesterday.

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After four rounds of balloting, the General Assembly last night elected the following 18 States to fill vacancies on the 54-member Economic and Social

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Council: Bahamas, Bhutan, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Gabon, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Zaire. The new members will serve three-year terms beginning on 1 January 1993.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a letter dated 21 October, has informed the Security Council that the Yugoslav Army had withdrawn from Croatia. The last remaining units of the Army completed their withdrawal from the Prevlaka Peninsula on 20 October 1992, and the United Nations military observers, in cooperation with the European Community Monitoring Mission (ECMM), were patrolling the area.

"With the final departure of the Yugoslav Army from Croatian soil, a crucial element in the United Nations peace-keeping plan approved by the Security Council has been fulfilled," the Secretary-General said. Document S/24710

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In an effort to build up relief supplies in Sarajevo before winter closes in, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) stepped up land and air deliveries to the city this week. Four trucks carrying 36 metric tons of food aid reached Sarajevo yesterday and another convoy of 19 trucks, which set out from Belgrade yesterday, was expected to arrive in the Bosnian capital today. UNHCR also reported that an average of 16 relief flights a day had been landing at Sarajevo airport all this week.

The UNHCR also reported today that consignments of food aid were being delivered to Pale, and to Vitez, which had not received relief supplies since 18 October, when fighting erupted in the area.

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The General Assembly this morning called for strenghtened cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), the League of Arab States and the Latin American Economic System (SELA). It took that action by adopting three resolutions, one concerning each organization.

Under its resolutions, the Assembly recommended that a general meeting between the United Nations and OAS be held in 1993, with a view to signing an agreement of cooperation. It requested the Secretary-General to continue cooperation with the League of Arab States for the purpose of implementing United Nations resolutions relating to the Question of Palestine and to the situation in the Middle East. The Assembly also urged broader cooperation between SELA and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other United Nations specialized agencies.

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Armando Duque has been appointed to head the Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM), and to serve as Security Coordinator, exercising the Secretary-General's authority relating to the security of United Nations staff worldwide, the Secretary-General's Spokesman, Joe Sills, said today. Mr. Duque will be replacing Abdou Ciss, who is taking the post of Assistant President in the General Affairs Department of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome.

The Spokesman pointed out that security at Headquarters in New York remains the responsibility of the Security Chief Richard Ward and the Security and Safety Service.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1259
30 October 1992

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council extends mandate of United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador for one month until 30 November.

+ In second meeting today, Council calls on parties in Angola to refrain from any act that might highten tension and jeopardize continued electoral process; extends mandate of United Nations Angola Verification Mission until 30 November.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement read out at third meeting this evening, calls on parties to conflict in Tajikistan to end fighting and welcomes Secretary-General's decision to send goodwill mission and humanitarian assistance team to that country and Central Asia.

+ At fourth meeting, Council condemns attacks by Serb militia in Bosnia and Herzegovina against civilians fleeing from city of Jajce; says violations of humanitarian law will be brought before war crimes Commission.

+ New Special Representative of Secretary-General for Somalia, Ismat T. Kittani of Iraq, to go to that country next week.

+ Actress Sophia Loren appointed Goodwill Ambassador to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; to visit refugee aid centres in Kenya and Somalia.

+ Germany asks whether world can risk another 12-month delay in deciding to draft statute for International Court; China questions feasibility of Court in continuing debate in Sixth Committee.

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The Security Council this afternoon, in the first of four meetings today, voted unanimously to extend the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) for another month, until 30 November. By its resolution, the Council asked the Secretary-General to recommend what mandate and strength ONUSAL would need in order to verify the implementation of the

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final phases of the peace process in El Salvador. It urged the Salvadoran Government and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) to respect scrupulously and to implement in good faith the commitments assumed under the Mexico Agreements and to respond positively to the Secretary-General's latest proposals to them aimed at overcoming the current difficulties.

The Secretary-General dispatched yesterday two senior United Nations officials to San Salvador to discuss with the parties a new timetable for the conclusion of the peace agreements.

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At a second meeting this evening, the Security Council approved the recommendation of the Secretary-General to extend the existing mandate of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) for an interim period, until 30 November 1992.

The Council strongly condemned the resumption of hostilities by the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and demanded that such acts cease forthwith. It called on the parties to the Peace Accords to refrain from any act that might heighten tension and urged the leaders of the parties to engage in a dialogue without delay so as to enable the second round of the presidential elections to be held promptly.

The Council said it would hold responsible any party which refused to take part in such a dialogue, thereby jeopardizing the entire process, and it reiterated its readiness to consider all appropriate measures under the Charter of the United Nations to secure implementation of the Peace Accords. It strongly condemned the attacks and baseless accusations against the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAVEM II made by the UNITA radio station, and it demanded that such acts stop immediately.

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Concerned at the continuing deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan, the Security Council today called on all the parties to the conflict to end the fighting and urged the Government of that Republic and the leaders of the parties concerned to begin a political dialogue in order to reach an overall settlement by peaceful means.

In a statement read out by Council President Jean-Bernard Merimeé (France) at a third meeting this evening, the Council welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to send, within a few days, a goodwill mission, including a humanitarian assistance mission, to Tajikistan and Central Asia, in response to requests by the Governments of that region. It also called on parties in neighbouring countries to refrain from any action which might contribute to increasing tension and to impeding a settlement.

The Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation warned in a letter to the President of the Security Council, dated 24 October, that the conflict in

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Tajikistan was threatening to escalate into a civil war which would have "catastrophic consequences for the territorial integrity of the Republic and the security of the whole Central Asian region". It asked for international assistance to promote a normalization of the situation there, saying it was particularly concerned over the fate of Russian nationals and the Russian-speaking population in Tajikistan.
Document S/24725

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In its final meeting this evening, the Council condemned attacks launched by Serb militia in Bosnia and Herzegovina against civilians fleeing from the city of Jajce and reaffirmed that persons who commit such attacks or order the commission of grave breaches of international law, including the Geneva Conventions, were individually responsible and would be brought to the attention of the Commission of Experts set up to investigate such violations. The Council demanded that all such attacks cease immediately.

The Council took that action by a second statement read out by its President Jean-Bernard Merimée, in which the Council expressed its concern by the continuing conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina with its resultant loss of life and material damage, which threaten international peace and security, and by reports of egregious violations of international humanitarian law by "whomsoever committed".

The Council's action follows the publication of a number of letters addressed to the Council by the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina in which he draws attention to such incidents, as well as of a report issued earlier this week by Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights, in which he once again calls for an increase in humanitarian assistance to all persons in the affected areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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The Secretary-General has appointed a new Special Representative for Somalia, Ismat T. Kittani of Iraq, to take over after the resignation, earlier this week, of Ambassador Mohammed Sahnoun of Algeria. Mr. Kittani will go to Somalia next week to continue the duties of the Special Representative concerning the United Nations relief efforts in that country.

A United Nations official told correspondents today that Mr. Kittani was an "experienced official", and that the United Nations activities in Somalia would move ahead "vigorously and actively". The Secretary-General had written a letter to the Security Council expressing his regret at the resignation of Mr. Sahnoun and saying that he understood the "exceptional difficulties" that he had faced . The Secretary-General wrote that the primary problem in Somalia remained the delays in deployment of forces and that efforts were being made to overcome that problem.

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Italian actress Sophia Loren has been named a Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). High Commissioner Sadako Ogata will formally appoint her on 18 November, and three days later the film star will set out on a six-day visit to Kenya and Somalia, to help focus public attention on the massive refugee crisis in the region.

"Sophia Loren has expressed great concern for the situation in the Horn of Africa, where a lethal combination of tribal warfare, anarchy and a prolonged drought-induced famine has created one of the worst humanitarian disasters of our time," Mrs. Ogata said.

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The representative of Germany, in his statement to the Sixth Committee (Legal) yesterday, asked if the world community could afford another 12-month delay in deciding whether the International Law Commission should draft the statute for an international criminal court. "The most serious violations of humanitarian law are happening today", he told the Committee as it continued its consideration of the report of the Commission.

On Wednesday, 28 October, the representative of China said the establishment of an international criminal court would not be feasible because States would be loath to surrender or diminish jurisdiction. He said the new climate in international relations would make it hard to guarantee the court's independence and impartiality. States should be able to decide what crimes would fall within the purview of the proposed court, the representative of France said. Austria proposed that the court's jurisdiction be limited initially to crimes identified under existing international conventions.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1260
2 November 1992

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General expresses deep concern over fighting in Angola and appeals for end to acts that would worsen already "precarious situation"; United Nations arranged for cease-fire to take effect today.

+ Secretary-General's Spokesman says appointment of new Special Representative for Somalia is to reaffirm determination of United Nations to help people of that country overcome its tragic difficulties.

+ United Nations goodwill mission, lead by Raymond Sommereyns, Director in Department of Political Affairs, left New York yesterday for Moscow, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

+ Secretary-General calls for increased contributions to United Nations development programmes at joint United Nations/FAO pledging conference.

+ Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of International Conference on former Yugoslavia, visit Belgrade, Pristina, Skopje, Tirana, Podgorica and Zagreb for meetings with leaders of that region.

+ Albania urges United Nations to take immediate action to avert bloodshed in that region.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has deeply deplored the escalation of violence in Angola as evidenced by heavy fighting in its capital during the last 24 hours. In a statement over the weekend, the Secretary-General urged all the parties to stop hostilities and desist from any acts that would worsen the already precarious situation.

He strongly appealed personally to Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas M. Savimbi, the leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), to withdraw immediately their forces and to return them to the barracks. The Secretary-General called for the immediate resumption of the "constructive dialogue" which has been promoted by his

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For information media—not an official record

Special Representative, Margaret Anstee, in an attempt to find a peaceful solution to the crisis. He also appealed for the safety and security of all, including United Nations personnel and the expatriate community in Angola.

In a related development, the Secretary-General's Spokesman said yesterday that the United Nations had arranged for a cease-fire agreement between President dos Santos and UNITA leader Mr. Savimbi. The cease-fire, scheduled to go into effect at midnight last night (local time), was to cover the entire territory of the country. Ms. Anstee had been instructed to work out the modalities of the cease-fire arrangements with the two parties, the statement said.

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The appointment of Ismat Kittani, the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, was to reaffirm the United Nations' determination to help the people of Somalia in overcoming the tragic difficulties their country faced, the Spokesman for the Secretary-General said in a statement today. He described it as the occasion for renewed cooperation and partnership between Somalia and the international community, and said its object was to save lives, defeat the spectres of famine and civil strife and to pave the way to political reconciliation.

The United Nations could only succeed in that task with the consent and support of the Somali people, he said. The Organization's purposes and method under Mr. Kittani's leadership would remain unchanged from that set forth by the Security Council, and the Secretary-General had no doubt that his Special Representative would have the full cooperation of his Somali partners in that endeavour.

Mr. Kittani, whose appointment was announced on 30 October, is replacing Ambassador Mohammed Sahnoun, who tendered his resignation earlier last week. Mr. Kittani, who has served for many years at the United Nations, both as the Permanent Representative for Iraq and in various capacities as a member of the United Nations staff, is expected to leave for Somalia within the next few days.

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The Secretary-General has dispatched a goodwill mission to Tajikistan and Central Asia, lead by Raymond Sommereyns, Director in the Department of Political Affairs, according to a letter dated 29 October. The mission will visit Moscow, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. The Secretary-General's letter was addressed to the President of the Security Council.

The Secretary-General had earlier dispatched a fact-finding mission which visited Uzbekistan and Tajikistan from 13 to 23 September.
Document S/24739

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While contributions to the World Food Programme (WFP) relief assistance had risen dramatically, commitments to WFP development projects were the lowest ever, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said this morning in an opening statement to the joint United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities and the United Nations/FAO Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme. The link between emergency and development assistance required that effective funding be provided for both types of assistance, he said.

Calling for adequate funding to programmes such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the Secretary-General noted that UNICEF needed sufficient resources to be efficient in helping countries formulate and implement national programmes of action for children.

As to the activites of UNFPA, the Secretary-General noted that there was an increasing awareness of the issue of population growth, and its relationship with the environment and sustainable development. A significant increase in the resources available to that Agency would make it possible to respond to the growing needs of many developing countries, he said.

Governments should ensure, at these Pledging Conferences, that the resources devoted to development cooperation through the United Nations system were at a level in proportion with the high expectations from the system by the international community, the Secretary-General said.

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Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, the two Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia, travelled to Belgrade, Pristina, Skopje, Tirana, Podgorica and Zagreb from 28 to 30 October to meet various leaders and discuss the draft Constitution for Bosnia-Herzegovina made public on the 28 October.

During the trip, they also sought assistance for the maintenance of stability in Kosovo and Macedonia and the protection of minority rights there, full implementation of the Vance Plan in the United Nations Protected Areas of Croatia, and cessation of hostilities and political settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

During their visit to Tirana, the Co-Chairmen held talks with Albanian President Sali Barisha and his cabinet, which focussed on the problems of the Albanian community in Kosovo and Macedonia and discussed what could be done to reduce tensions in the region. The President, for his part, confirmed his view that, on the question of the borders, the Helsinki principles apply; the Co-Chairmen stated that they were pressing for the restoration of full autonomy for Kosovo within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

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While meeting with Croatian President Tudjman, the matter of illegal arms shipments to Bosnia-Herzegovina via the Croatian coast was discussed, and the President agreed to have ships suspected of carrying arms searched at their current anchorages.

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Warning that Serbian forces in Kosova were trying to provoke a massacre of Albanians, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Albania has written to the President of the Security Council urging the United Nations to take immediate action to avert bloodshed in that region.

The Chairman, Aleksandr Meksi, in a letter dated 29 October, said that in spite of all efforts by the Albanian political forces and the population, the army and the police had been intimidating people and physically abusing them, with the intention of provoking a confrontation and subsequent massacre. A peaceful demonstration the previous week against a ban on education in Albania had resulted in a hundred people being injured and many more thrown in jail.

To prevent "another Bosnian-type tragedy of wider proportions", he called on the Security Council to consider sending "preventive deployment forces" to the border between Serbia and Kosova, and establishing a permanent presence in conjunction with regional organizations, and a no-fly zone over Kosova. He also called for demobilizing of military personnel in Kosova, disbanding of paramilitary units, prevention of forced displacement of the population, and political negotiations for a peaceful and durable solution to the crisis. Document S/24729

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1261
3 November 1992

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ United Nations mission headed by Secretary-General's newly-appointed Special Representative for Nagorno-Karabakh, Omar Halim, to visit that region during second half of November.

+ In Angola, efforts are underway to work out modalities for continuation of cease-fire, according to United Nations official.

+ In General Assembly yesterday, Secretary-General opens debate on Rio Conference report; Assembly's consideration of Secretary-General's Work of Organization report and "Agenda for Peace" report to continue in meeting tomorrow in informal, open-ended working group.

+ Nearly $600 million in cash and contributions promised to World Food Programme at FAO/United Nations Joint Pledging Conference on Development Activities.

+ Egypt tells Special Political Committee that situation in occupied territories remains very serious, despite hopes in Middle East peace process.

+ Control of illicit drug trafficking part of a wider United Nations peacemaking role, International Drug Programme Director tells Third Committee.

+ Joint Russian Federation/United States space project endorsed by United Nations as" practical demonstration" of productive conversion of military systems facilities.

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A United Nations official announced today that a mission headed by Omar Halim, Deputy Director of the Europe Division in the Department of Political Affairs, would visit Nagorno-Karabakh during the second half of November. Mr. Halim, who has been appointed as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the region, will be accompanied by Horst Heitmann, Political Affairs Officer in Mr. Halim's Department.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

Earlier last week, the Security Council supported the appointment of a special representative to the area, saying that his mission would be "to examine what contribution the United Nations could make in support of the efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to enable the early convening of the Minsk Conference to solve the conflict". The Council appealed for the immediate beginning of political negotiations for a comprehensive settlement.

In a related development, the authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh have written a letter to the Security Council pledging their cooperation with United Nations representatives and others to ensure the cessation of hostilities and the organization of the humanitarian assistance.

The letter was signed by Georgi Petrossian, Chairman of the Legislature of Nagorny-Karabakh, dated 31 October.
Document S/24751

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In Angola, efforts are underway to work out modalities for a continuation of the cease-fire which is still more or less holding, according to a United Nations official today. Kofi Annan, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, is currently in Luanda to try and organize a meeting with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the leader of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), Jonas M. Savimbi.

In a statement over the weekened, the Secretary-General called on the parties to end hostilities and desist from any acts that would worsen the already precarious situation, which developed after the Presidential elections held at the end of September.

* * *

Economic growth was the mainspring of development -- of improving human well-being, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the General Assembly yesterday, as it began its consideration of the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The thrust of economic growth must be guided by equity, justice and social and ecological responsibility, if development was to endure. "This, in my view, is the meaning behind 'sustainable development'", he said.

The key objective in the restructuring of the Secretariat, he went on, was to build a unity of purpose for the economic, social and environmental sectors of the United Nations and to strengthen linkages between them and the political and humanitarian sectors of the Organization. The United Nations' complex field operations should incorporate an integrated approach to peace and development.

The UNCED recommended that the Assembly endorse three major documents adopted in Rio. They are the "Rio Declaration on Environment and Development" - a set of 27 principles concerning individual and national behaviour in

(more)

pursuit of economic and environmental sustainability; "Agenda 21", a programme of action extending into the twenty-first century, dealing with the relationship between environment and economy; and the "Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus in the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests".

Also yesterday, the President of the General Assembly, Stoyan Ganev (Bulgaria), announced that from the extensive consultations he had conducted during the past week with representative of Member States a broad consensus had emerged that consideration of the Secretary-General's report on the Organization and of his "Agenda for Peace" should continue in an informal, open-ended working group and in the Assembly's Main Committees. He would chair the first such working group meeting tomorrow, 4 November.

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A total equivalent to $593,619,724, representing $220,384,783 in cash and contributions of commodities worth $373,234,941 were promised to the World Food Programme (WFP) over the course of two meetings of the joint Pledging Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

The first segment of the joint Pledging Conference, which opened yesterday, covered only WFP, and up to this date, 19 countries have announced specific pledges.

The second segment of this Conference where participants are to pledge support for development activities such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) was due to begin this morning.

* * *

Although new hope had been raised by the Middle East peace process, the situation in the occupied territories was still very serious, the representative of Egypt told the Special Political Committee today, as it continued consideration of the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

There was no marked improvement in Israel's occupation policies, Abderahman Salaheldin said, which called into question the credibility of the Israeli Government in the peace process.

The Egyptian representative went on to say that the fact that the United Nations had been invited to participate in the talks reflected a clear recognition of the contributions the Organization could make in reaching and implementing a peace process.

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The Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Giorgio Ciacomelli, today told the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee), that drug abuse control was part of the wider peacemaking role of the United Nations, when one considered the role played by the illicit drug economy in war and organized violence.

Introducing the reports before the Committee on drug control, Mr. Giacomelli said that countless armed conflicts were being "fed and financed" by the illicit profits of drug traffickers and organized crime. To combat the problem, he said that, in the short term, demand and supply must be reduced with aggressive measures against trafficking, and that the main supply reduction activity was alternative rural development.

* * *

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs has endorsed the objectives embodied in a cooperative Russian/United States space project, scheduled to take place on 19 November.

According to a press release issued by the Office yesterday, the "Europe-American Space Flight 500", involving organizations in both countries, is viewed as an "admirable example" of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, as well as a practical demonstration of the conversion of military systems and facilities to productive uses.

The United Nations endorsed the project as a follow-up to the International Conference on Technology Assessment in Aerospace Conversion for Development, which was held in Moscow under United Nations sponsorship last October.

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WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General to send Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, to Angola, where situation remains critical.

+ Secretary-General sends message of congratulations to Governor Bill Clinton, President-Elect of the United States of America.

+ Secretary-General expresses grave concern at "insecurity prevailing in Liberia".

+ Commission of Experts on humanitarian violations in former Yugoslavia holds first meeting; United Nations Legal Counsel, in opening address, says its conclusions will be scrutinized around the world.

+ Palestine refugee problems will be "discussed, negotiated and, hopefully, solved" at multilateral peace talks, not at United Nations, Israel tells Special Political Committee.

+ Special Commission's most recent inspection team in Iraq received "mixed signals", with both greater openness from Iraq and continued withholding of information, Commission spokesman says.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to send Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, on a mission to Angola, where the situation remains critical.

In a press release issued tonight at Headquarters, the Spokesman for the Secretary-General also announced that Mr. Goulding would arrive in the capital city of Luanda on Friday, 6 November. His instructions are to support the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Margaret Anstee, in her efforts to consolidate the cease-fire and to discuss with her the next steps to be taken in order to restore the peace process in Angola.

(more)

For information media—not an official record

In this mission, Mr. Goulding will work closely with representatives of the three observers of the Angolan peace process - Portugal, Russia and United States.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today sent his congratulations to Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas on his election as the 42nd President of the United States of America.

In a message to the President-Elect, the Secretary-General stated that, at this time of dramatic change around the world, when so many peoples yearned for democracy and so many governments struggle in their transition toward democratic institutions, the example of the American people exercizing their constitutional right was heartening for the entire international community.

Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali also pointed out that, as a founding member of the United Nations, the United States has always been a strong supporter of the ideals of the Organization.

The Secretary-General expressed his readiness to work with the President-Elect "on the great world agenda which today engages the United Nations".

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In a press release issued today at Headquarters, the Secretary-General has expressed his grave concern at the insecurity now prevailing in Liberia, particularly in the Monrovia area, as a result of the renewed and intensified fighting which posed a threat to the security and lives of the civilian population.

These recent alarming developments, he went on, would shortly be taken up by the Standing Committee of Five of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) at the Summit Meeting which was scheduled to take place this coming weekend. In this connection, the Secretary-General called on all parties to exercise maximum restraint and to avoid at all costs additional civilian casualties and needless destruction.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali also indicated that only non-essential United Nations staff had been withdrawn and that the Organization and the international community stood ready to increase humanitarian assistance as the situation permited.

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The five members of the Commission of Experts, established by the Security Council on 6 October to investigate and report on evidence of grave breaches of the Geneva Convention and other violations of international humanitarian law in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, held their first meeting at Headquarters in New York today.

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Opening the meeting this morning, United Nations Legal Counsel, Under-Secretary-General Carl-August Fleischhauer, said that the work of Commission would be closely scrutinized by the international community, not only in relation to the situation in former Yugoslavia, but also in the wider context of the codification and progressive development of international criminal law.

He pointed out that in addition to its fact-finding function, the Commission was also mandated to establish evidence that would enable the Secretary-General to recommend further appropriate steps so that persons who commited or ordered the commission of grave breaches of international humanitarian law would be held individually responsible for such breaches.

* * *

The problems of Palestine refugees would be "discussed, negotiated and, hopefully, solved" in the multilateral peace talks now taking place, and not at the United Nations", the representative of Israel told the Special Political Committee today.

He went on to say that progress in the peace process must be accompanied by the creation of systems for regional cooperation, and pledged that, in the current peace-making talks, the new Government of his country would work towards the creation of a new Middle East in which "new resources were no longer devoted to the arms race, but to development".

The Special Committee is presently considering the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), which says that, in sharp contrast to the optimism created by the opening of the Middle East peace talks, the situation in the occupied territory of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip remained critical and conditions in the refugees camps appalling.

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The most recent inspection team of the United Nations Special Commission on Iraqi disarmament (UNSCOM) had received "mixed signals" from Iraq, Commission Spokesman Tim Trevane told the press at Headquarters today. Addressing a briefing together with the Commission's Chief Inspector, Nikita Smidovich, he said that UNSCOM had seen the most recent inspection as a "touchstone" in its relations with Iraq and this country's compliance with the various United Nations resolutions on the matter. The outcome had been both positive and negative.

On the positive side, the inspection team had obtained "new and detailed information on certain operation aspects of the use of weapons of mass destruction during the period prior to the Special Commission's operations". Previously, Iraq had refused to supply such information, arguing that it was operational and therefore not relevant to the Commission.

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On the negative side, there had been "fairly unpleasant things" said about the inspection teams and their intentions by President Saddam Hussein, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq. There were also still problems with the treatment of the inspectors, and Iraq still refused to supply data on its suppliers of equipment and materials during the Persian Gulf war, he said.

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CORRECTION:

The first headline in Tuesday Highlights, 3 November, should have read:

** "United Nations mission headed by a newly-appointed representative of the Secretary-General for Nagorno-Karabakh, Omar Halim, to visit that region during second half of November."

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